Thursday, December 16 1703

The King of France's Declaration of War against the Duke of Savoy."

HE Manifestoes which the Duke of Savoy has difpers'd throughout his Dominions, to incite his Subjects to take Arms to defend thomselves; his Endeavours to perswade all the Courts of Europe of the Violence done his Troops the 29th of September, when they were feiz'd and difarm'd by the Duke of Vendome pursuant to his Majesty's Orders, might make some Impression on Mens Minds, if the too well known Infidelity of that Prince had not constrain'd his Majesty to take that Resolution, so contrary to the Conduct he pursued at the time when the Superiority of his Arms and the confiderable Advantages he had gain'd over the Princes and States confederated against him, rendred him able to grant them Peace on his own Terms. Of this the Treaty made in 1696 between his Majesty and the Duke of Savoy, the Band of which was the Marriage of his Grandson the Duke of Burgundy with the eldest Daughter of that Prince, is an incontestable Proof; as well as of the Advantages which the said Prince sound wanting on the side of the Alliance made between him, the

Emperor, England, and Holland. King Charles the 2d dying in 1700, the Succession of the Monarchy of Spain devolving on Philip the 5th by Right of Inheritance, the Tenour of the Laws of all the Estates which compose that Monarchy, the Will of the last King, and the Wishes of all the People, that Disposition having stir'd up the Jealousie of the Enemies of the Grandeur of France, his Majesty was oblig'd, for preserving that Monarchy entire, to order, foon after, some Troops to march into Italy, which seem'd likeliest to be first attack'd; At the fame time he made a new Treaty with the Duke of Savoy, by which that Prince oblig'd himfelf, during the time the War should last, to furnish toooo Men at a certain Rate agreed on: By the fame Treaty he was to have the Command of the Armies of the 2 Kings in Italy; after this, his Majesty consented to the Marriage of the King of Spain with that Duke's Second Daughter, to the end he might cement, by fuch strong Engagements and Marks of an intire Confidence, the Union which feem'd to be of endless Duration between his Majesty, the King of Spain, and the faid Duke, and induce him to promote with all his Power the Interest of the 2 Crowns; This Treaty was executed Bona Fide on the part of the 2 Kings, the first Year: And though that Campaign succeeded ill, tho' the Emperor's Army penetrated into Italy, and the Duke of Savoy withdrew his Troops at the time there was most occasion for them, yet he cannot be charg'd with not having perform'd his part likewise. That Campaign being ended, his Majesty seeing the Pro-Campaign being ended, his Majesty seeing the Progreis made by the Enemies Troops, determind to fend 30 Battallious and 30 Squadrons to augment his Army, and give it the Superiority requisite to establish the Tranquility of Italy, and put the Emperor our of all hopes of rendring himself Master of it. At that time it was that his Majesty receiv'd Advices from all Parts, of the Intelligence the Duke of Savoy held with the Emperor and England, 'twas then his Ambaffador demanded the Pay of his Troops to be rais'd; and, having rendred his Fidelity suspected, his Majesty resolv'd to consent that his Troops should be arduc'd to half the Number he was to furpish, and

that the King of Spain should put himself at the Head of the Armies.

These Suspicions already but too well grounded, were heighten'd by certain Information of his Negociations and Proposals of Treating with the Emperor. The Care of the Duke to keep this Management Secret, could not prevent its taking Wind; the Gazettes were fill'd with the Conditions of the Treaty, the Emperor's Ambassador at Rome talk'd of them publickly, and his Majesty was inform'd by sure hands, that the Count d'Ausburg the Emperor's Minifter arrived at Turin on the 15th of July last, with full Powers to conclude it.

So thameful an Affair could not be carried on barefac'd without provoking the Indignation of the Publick ; it was therefore transacted in the Night time, in the House of the Marquess de Prie, where that Minister kept close a long time, and where the Duke of Savoy and the Count de la Tour had frequent

Conferences with him.

At that very time, the Duke order'd publick Prayers to be made, for obtaining the Affiftance of Heaven . in the perplex'd State of Affairs he was in; he did the like in 1696, when he quitted the Party of the

Emperor and his Allies.

The Rumour of the Count d'Ausburg's being at Turin growing too loud, he retir'd out of that City to a Country House of the Count de Tarini's, whither the Marquess de S. Thomas repair'd to him often, and the Duke of Savoy himself several times. His Majesty, well inform'd of all this, confirm'd fince by an intercepted Letter from the Count d'Ausburg to the Count de Sinzendorf, dated from Turin October 13. order'd his Ambassador to speak to the Duke of Savoy about it, who fent Instructions to the Count de Vernon to reaffure his Majesty of his Fidelity, by publick Protestations that he would never depart from his Engagements with the 2 Crowns, that there was no Imperial Minister at Turin, and that he would hearken to no Proposals from the Emperor; he gave like Orders to his Ambaffador at Madrid to make the like Protestations to the King of Spain.

This Conduct leaving his Majesty no room to doubt of the Infidelity of that Prince, out of a Precaution no less just than necessary he order'd the Duke of Vendome to difarm the few Troops of Savoy that remain'd in the Army of his Majesty and the Catholick King, to fecure them, and advance towards Piemont; but before he entred into it and committed any Act of Hostility, his Majesty propos'd that the Duke of Savoy should deliver up to him some Places of Strength, and reduce the number of his Troops to the Establishment stipulated in the Treaty of 1696, that he might secure the Communication of his Territories with those of the King of Spain his Grandson, and for the future be rid of all Apprehension of the ill Designs of the Duke of

Savoy.

These Proposals, so consistent with the Interest of the Duke of Savoy, and which alone are capable of maintaining Tranquility in his Dominions, were rejected; he put under Confinement the Ambassadors of France and Spain at Turin, without allowing them the liberty of speaking with any Person, or so much as of giving an account what was become of them, while the Count de Vernon his Ambassador to his Majesty was under no other Restraint than his Parole. He stop'd all the French, the Officers and Soldiers of his Majesty's Troops, that were passing through his Dominions; he caused all paffing through his Dominions; their Effects to be feiz'd; and relying on the Succours he expects from his New Allies, in pursuance of the Treaties concluded with them, he caus'd Troops to march to meet 2000 Horse commanded by Visconti, which was totally defeated by the Duke of Vendome, before they could be joyn'd. He has caus'd all his Subjects to take Arms, given out Commissions for new Levies, and has not omitted any thing to manifest to all Europe that he makes nothing to violate the Faith of Treaties. These Proceedings leaving no room for doubting his Intentions, his Majesty to prevent the Consequence of them, has resolv'd to declare War against him both by Sea and Land, as he does by these Presents, &c. For fuch is his Majesty's Will.

Sign'd Louis, and underneath, Chamillage.

Felmouth, Dec. 11. On the 9th came in a Ship of about 100 Ton, laden with Canary and Logwood, being one of 5 Sail taken out of Santa Cruz Road about 30 days fince by Her Majesty's Ships the Deptford and Lestoff, in their Voyage to Guinea. They sunk 2, and took the other 2 along with them.

Taxmouth, Dec. 13. Yesterday sail'd hence Her Majesty's Ships the Dartmouth, Falkland, Warwick, Lynn, and Deale Castle, with the Russia Ships and Colliers for the River.

At the Defire of several Ladies of Quality,

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this present Thursday being the 16th of December, will be presented a Comedy call'd, The Pilgrim. With several Entertainments of Singing by Mr. Leveridge and Mrs. Campion. And Danceing by the famous Monsieur Du Ruel and others.

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This day is publish'd,

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Whereas the so much fam'd Strops, which have deservedly gain'd so great a Reputation in the World, for setting of Razors, Pen-knives, &c. upon, inflead of a Hoane, have been for some time Sold at Jacob's Coffee-house in Threadneedle-street; These are to give notice, that the Author of em hath remov'd them to John's Coffee-house in Sweetings-Alley near the Royal Exchange, as hath been mention'd in the Gazette on the 4th, 1 th & 20th of Novelast, where only the true ones are now ready fix'd upon boards to be had, all others sold either by Jacob or any other Person, under what Denomination soever, are not the right Genuine Strops (prepar'd by the sinst Author) but something in imitation of em. Beware therefore of Counterfeits, for such are abroad. Peice 1.s. each, with Directions.

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